GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRAPRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Prohibition & Excise Department – Allegation of Criminal Misconduct against Sri P. Paparao, AES (Retired) for his involvement in the two liquor syndicate cases along with other P&E officials pertaining to Srikakulam District – Cases entrusted to Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings – W.P.No. 18539 of 2021 filed challenging the charge memos issued by the TDP in TEC No.347/2013 & 208/2013 - TDP repealed, Cases entrusted to CoI - Hon'ble High Court orders dated 24.02.2023 in W.P.No. 18539 of 2021 Implemented – Further action dropped against Sri P. Paparao, AES (Retired) - Orders - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 334 **Dated: 18-04-2025**

Read the following:

1. From the D.G., ACB, Lr.Rc.No.74/RCO-VSK/2012 (Cr.No.4/RCO-ACB-VZM/2012).
2. From the D.G., ACB, Rc.No.11/RCO-VSK/2012, dated:10-10-2012 (Cr.No.01/RCO-ACB-VZM/2012)
3. Govt. Memo No. 51873/Vig.V(2)/2012-1, dated:16.01.2013.
4. Govt. Memo No. 46423/VIG.IV(2)/2012-1, dated:16.01.2013
5. Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings Charge Memo in TEC No.347 of 2013, Dt.08.05.2017 & TEC No.208 of 2013, Dt.07.02.2018.
6. Act 29 of 2022 to repeal the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Disciplinary Proceeding Tribunal) Act, 1960 and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto published in A.P.Gazettee, Part-IV-B Extraordinary No.29, Amaravati, dt.22.12.2022.
7. G.O.Ms.No.98 GA (Ser.E) Dept, dtd 18.08.2022.
8. Hon'ble High Court orders dated 24.02.2023 in 18539 of 2021 filed by Sri P.Paparao, AES (Retired).
9. G.O.Rt.No.369, Rev (Vig.IV) Dept, dtd 17.04.2023.
10. G.O.Rt.No.367, Rev (Vig.IV) Dept, dtd 17.04.2023
11. D.O.Lr.No.104/COI-RPT/2023, Dated:29.08.2023 of IA Sri R.P.Thakur, I.P.S(Retd.)
12. D.O. Lr. No. TC Peshi.4/COI-MKS/2023, dated 01.09.2023 of IA Sri Manish Kumar Sinha, IPS.
13. Govt. Memo.No.51873/Vig.V(2)/2012, dated 04.03.2024.
14. Govt. Memo.No.46423/Vig.IV.2/2012, Dated:04.03.2024.
15. Written explanations of Sri P.Papa Rao, in two cases received on 29.04.2024 & 30.04.2024.
16. Contempt Case No.637/2025 in WP No.18539 of 2021 filed by Sri P.Paparao, AES (Retired).

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st & 2nd read above, the Director General, Anti- Corruption Bureau has furnished reports on certain allegations against Prohibition & Excise Officials involved in the liquor syndicate cases pertaining to Srikakulam district including Sri P. Paparao, AES (Retired) along with other Prohibition & Excise officials in Crime Nos. 4/RCO-ACB-VZM/2012 and 01/RCO-ACB-VZM/2012. The Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau recommended for placing the A.O. on his defencebefore Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings(TDP) in two cases along with other P&E officials.

2. In the reference 3rd and 4th read above, Government placed Sri P. Paparao, AES (Retired) on his defence before TDP in two cases among others. The TDP issued Charges against him vide reference 5th read above.

3. Whereas, Sri P. Paparao, AES (Retired) filed W.P.No.18539 of 2021 before the Hon'ble High Court to declare action of respondents in not concluding the disciplinary proceedings initiated vide TEC No.347 of 2013, Dt.08.05.2017 & TEC No.208 of 2013, Dt.07.02.2018 as illegal and arbitrary.

4. And whereas, the Government repealed the TDP and the cases pending before the Tribunal were transferred to the Commissioner of Inquiries (COI) vide reference 6th & 7th read above. These consequences have been placed before the Hon'ble High Court by filing counter affidavit in the above writ petition.

5. In the reference 8th read above, the Hon'ble High Court, in its orders dated 24.02.2023 in W.P.No.18539 of 2021 disposed the case with the following directions:

> "… considering the facts and circumstances of the case and in view of the above discussion, the COI is directed to conclude the enquiry, within a period of six months from today, failing which the charge memo issued to the petitioner vide Tribunal Enquiry case nos. 208 and 347 of 2013, which were transferred to the COI, pursuant to G.O.Ms.No.98, Dt.18.08.2022 shall stand quashed".

6. In the reference 9th & 10th read above, Sri R.P. Thakur, IPS (Retd.), Member, COI and Sri Manish Kumar Sinha, IPS/COI appointed as Inquiring Authorities of Sri P. Papa Rao, AES (Retired) along with other P&E officials for conducting inquiries with direction to submit the inquiry report to the Government within (4) months. Presenting Officers were also appointed.

7. In the reference 11th and 12th read above, the Inquiring Authorities submitted inquiry reports. Copies of the Inquiry Reports have been communicated to the Charged Officers including Sri P. Papa Rao, AES (Retired) calling for their explanations.

8. As the matter is under examination, Sri P. Papa Rao, AES (Retired), has filed Contempt Case No. 637/2025 praying that the Hon'ble High Court may be pleased to summon the respondents for committing contempt of orders of the Hon'ble High Court passed in W.P. No. 18539 of 2021, dated 24.02.2023 passed by the Hon'ble high Court.

9. The government, after careful examination of the entire matter has observed that as per the Hon'ble High Court orders, the inquiry has to be concluded within six months, failing which the Charge Memo issued in TEC No.208/2013 and 347/2013 shall stand quashed. Since the inquiries have not been concluded within the prescribed time frame, the charge memos stood automatically quashed on 23.08.2023 as per the Hon'ble High Court's orders dated 24.02.2023. Any action taken up after the Court timelines are over fails the test of legality. Therefore the orders of the Hon'ble High Court, the government has decided to implement the orders dated 24.02.2023 of Hon'ble High Court passed in W.P.No.18539 of 2021 and hereby drop further action against Sri P. Papa Rao, AES (Retired) in departmental case (TEC No.208/2013, dt.07.02.2018 and 347/2013 Dt.08.05.2017).

10. The Director of Prohibition and Excise shall take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

MUKESH KUMAR MEENA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri P. Papa Rao, AES (Retired) through Director, Prohibition and Excise, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.

The Director of Prohibition and Excise, Mangalagiri, Guntur district.

Copy to:

The Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau, A.P, Vijayawada.

The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, A.P. Vigilance Commission, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi.

The Government Pleader for Services, A.P. High Court, Amaravathi.

Sc/Sf.

//FORWARDED:BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER